

Montana State Legislature

2015 SESSION

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS

Business Page

[Signed by Chairman]

Roll Call

Standing Committee Reports

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Proxy Forms

Visitor Registrations

***Any other documents, which were submitted after the committee hearing has ended and/or was submitted late [within 48 hours], regarding information in the committee hearing.**

***Witness Statements that were not presented as exhibits.**

Montana Historical Society Archives

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2015 Legislative

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BUSINESS REPORT

**MONTANA SENATE
64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

SENATE PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

Date: Monday, February 16, 2015
Place: Capitol

Time: 3:00 PM
Room: 317-A

BILLS and RESOLUTIONS HEARD:

HB 256 - Revise laws to provide checks and balances for expanding affordable care act - Rep. Matthew Monforton

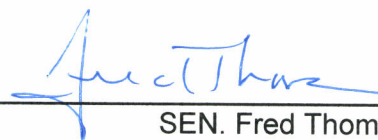
SB 9 - Allow sharing of certain health care information with law enforcement - Sen. Roger Webb

SB 206 - Establish limits on the supplemental nutrition assistance program - Sen. Fred Thomas

SB 263 - Require DPHHS to provide educational materials to medicaid enrollees - Sen. Mary Caferro

EXECUTIVE ACTION TAKEN:

Comments:



SEN. Fred Thomas, Chair

MONTANA STATE SENATE

Roll Call

PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

DATE: February 16, 2015

<u>NAME</u>	<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT/ EXCUSED</u>
CHAIRMAN FRED THOMAS	X	
VICE CHAIRMAN DAVID HOWARD	X	
SENATOR MARY CAFERRO	X	
SENATOR DIANE SANDS	X	
SENATOR CARY SMITH		X
SENATOR NELS SWANDAL	X	
SENATOR JONATHAN WINDY BOY		X

MONTANA STATE SENATE

SENATE PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

Monday, February 16, 2015

SB 263 - Require DPHHS to provide educational materials to medicaid enrollees

Sponsor: **Sen. Mary Caferro**

PLEASE PRINT

[illegible]

Please leave prepared testimony with Secretary. Witness Statement forms are available if you care to submit written testimony.

MONTANA STATE SENATE

Visitors Register

SENATE PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

Monday, February 16, 2015

SB 9 - Allow sharing of certain health care information with law enforcement

Sponsor: **Sen. Roger Webb**

PLEASE PRINT

[illegible]

Please leave prepared testimony with Secretary. Witness Statement forms are available if you care to submit written testimony.

MONTANA STATE SENATE
Visitors Register
SENATE PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

Monday, February 16, 2015

HB 256 - Revise laws to provide checks and balances for expanding affordable care act

Sponsor: Rep. Matthew Monforton

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Name	Representing	Support	Oppose	Info
Tara Jensen	Montana Budget Policy		X	
Joe Skypat	AFP-MT	X		
Sarah Howell	Montana Women Vote		X	
Katie Bark	Self		X	
Soy Brueck	AARP MT		X	
Sandra Janowski	AARP MT		X	
Amanda Harrow	MPCA		X	
Irvin Kay	Myself		X	
Rebecca Adams ^{FSS} RDN	self		X	
Patricia D. Hennessy	SELF		X	
Kathleen Madison	Community Health Partners		X	
Jon Vero	Community Health P.		X	
Kristi Thane	Community Health Partners		X	
Kim Abbott	MHRN		X	

Please leave prepared testimony with Secretary. Witness Statement forms are available if you care to submit written testimony.

MONTANA STATE SENATE
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SENATE PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

Monday, February 16, 2015

SB 206 - Establish limits on the supplemental nutrition assistance program

Sponsor: Sen. Fred Thomas

PLEASE PRINT

Name	Representing	Support	Oppose	Info
Patricia D. Hennessey	SELF		X	
Gayle Gifford	Mont Food Bank Network		X	
Lorianne Burhop	" " " "		X	
Erin M. Carlstrom	" " " "		X	
AART Dolman	GF YWCA		X	
MINKIE MEDORA	Food Security Council		X	
Dave Abbott	GF Community Food Bank		X	
Jamie Palagi	DPHHS		X	
Katie Bark	MT Academy of Nutrition & Dietetics		X	
Tara Jensen	Montana Budget Policy		X	
Sarah Howell	MT Women Vote U		X	
Joy Bruck	AARP MT S		X	
Sandra Jankowski	AARP MT		X	
Joseph Chopyak	Physician Assistant		X	
Nicole Willey	NWCHC		X	
Liberty	MCADSV		X	
Rebecca Warren	Self		X	
Amanda Harrow	MPCA		X	
Carl Garcia	Self		X	
Helen Anderson	Self		X	
Maria Clemons	NWCHC		X	
Terry Minow	MEA, MET		X	

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MONTANA STATE SENATE

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SENATE PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

Monday, February 16, 2015

SB 206 - Establish limits on the supplemental nutrition assistance program

Sponsor: **Sen. Fred Thomas**

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[illegible]

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1350 I St NW Suite #300
Washington, D.C. 20005

Additional Documents

SENATE: Public Health

Date: 2/16/2015
Bill No. SB 206

February 16, 2015

To the members of the Senate Public Health, Welfare and Safety Committee -

I am writing today to voice opposition to Senate Bill 206. The Grocery Manufacturers Association is the voice of 300 leading food, beverage and consumer product manufacturers.

Legislative proposals, such as S.B. 206, that limit consumer choice would require a list of government "good" and "bad" food for the 300,000 food and beverage products currently available in the marketplace. Identifying, evaluating, and tracking the nutritional profile of every food product available for purchase in SNAP would be an enormous undertaking. The task would require judgments about the nutritional quality of every existing and new food product. Because the food industry reformulates and introduces thousands of new products each year, it would be very difficult to uniquely identify every food product and link it to a nutritional profile.

Moreover, restrictions on the products that can be purchased with SNAP benefits are not supported by current recommendations from nutritionists and dietitians regarding a "total diet" approach. According to the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (AND), all foods can fit within a total diet if consumed in moderation with appropriate portion size and combined with physical activity. AND contends that the classification of specific foods as good or bad is overly simplistic and can foster unhealthy eating behaviors. As such, no single food or type of food ensures good health, just as no single food or type of food is necessarily detrimental to health.

If the intent of the legislature is to assist in combating poor food choices there are effective alternatives. Other states have adopted policies aimed at incentivizing individuals for choices related to fresh fruits and vegetables.

Rather than limiting food choice and creating a complex program with additional hurdles for participants that may cause stigma and result in confusion and nonparticipation, GMA believes that efforts should focus on nutritional education, access and outreach.

Very Truly Yours,

Kelsey Johnson
Director, State Affairs
GMA

Date: 2/16/2015

Bill No. SB 206

Senate Public Health, Welfare and Safety Committee

2/16/2015

Rm 317

I oppose SB 206.

I urge you to vote against SB 206 which would impose unnecessary, wasteful, and irrelevant provisions on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). As a registered dietitian, licensed nutritionist, and member of the Montana Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, I am familiar with the benefits provided to individuals and families who utilize SNAP assistance and can speak to its effectiveness and value.

One provision would limit food purchased with SNAP benefits to only those foods allowed on the WIC supplemental food program. WIC is a federal nutrition program that specifically targets postpartum women, infants, and children less than 5 years to improve nutritional status. Although cereal, bread, milk, peanut butter, eggs, and milk are allowed for purchase, meat is not allowed for purchase with WIC. Think about the young male veteran who has fallen on hard times and needs SNAP assistance. Are you prepared to tell this veteran that you voted to limit his food choices and to not allow meat purchase on SNAP? How would refusing to allow meat purchase benefit the nutritional status of a veteran or any other adult or child receiving SNAP?

Another provision would limit Montana's ability to expand eligibility as allowed under federal law. Utilizing the option provided by the federal government has allowed Montana to make the SNAP program more accessible to individuals and families experiencing food insecurity. This bill would remove that option making deserving individuals and families at higher risk for poor nutritional status.

Although I focused only on two provisions of this bill, the other two provisions are equally inappropriate and wasteful of time, money, and resources. None of these provisions serve the intended goal of improving the health status on Montanans receiving SNAP assistance. Help Montanans in need by voting against SB 206.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Patti Steinmuller, MS, RD, CSSD, LN
14665 Spanish Breaks Trail
Gallatin Gateway, MT 59730